

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Research

Literary work is imaginative and creative writing to express ideas, thoughts, and experiences in many ways to deliver message and related to social. According to Wellek and Warren (1949: 89) “literature is a social institution, using it medium language as a social creation.” In the other words, literature or literary work is product of social life; therefore it is related directly or indirectly to the real life of society. Based on author personal experience with the social condition at the time, literary work helps to connect the reader to the society and learn more about social condition. Literary work also gives information about history in the society. Reading literary works may enrich the reader’s knowledge about history and social condition in the time when the literary works was written.

Literature has many branches namely short story, drama, poetry, and novel. Novel is the one most popular literary works which has a close relationship to human life and dominant in presenting social element. It is therefore not surprising that according to Kenney (1975: 106) society become a favorite subject of novelist. Although novel has been a powerful media to presenting dissatisfaction toward the situation happened in society. One of the popular novels criticizes the corruption and revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century is “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.

“Animal Farm” is one of George Orwell’s popular novels. He wrote this novel between November 1943 and February 1944. In this novel, Orwell criticizes the corruption and revolution in Russian society and he delivers his message by using the animal characters. He uses the animal to reflect the situation happens in Russian society in the early of 20th century. The novel tells about a group of animals which did rebel and oust the human from the farm where they live because the human treat them badly. The animals run the farm themselves, some animals learn how to read and write. Food is plentiful due to a good harvest, and the entire farm is organized and running smoothly. The animals live and work happily, because they think that they are works for themselves, not for human that they hate. But in the end of the story, the farm was being the same with the farm when it was owned by human. Even it becomes worse because corruption of revolution by its leader who in position of social and political power manipulated and twisted a good society.

According to Professor Michael Shelden in his book *The World of George Orwell*, Eric Arthur Blair was George Orwell’s real name. He was born in Bengal, India on June 25, 1903. Blair is the son of Richard Blair, a civil servant at the lower rungs of the British Empire. Orwell was educated in England. He already shows his interest in writer’s world since he is eleven. He received good education and military training in his school. Orwell joined the Indian Imperial Police in Burma and a British colony after that. He resigned in 1927 and decided to become a writer. He took name George Orwell, before the publication of his first book. Orwell is well known as critical and straightforward author. Most of Orwell’s

masterpieces satire in totalitarianism has successful attempt to make political writing an art. One of his famous novels beside “Animal Farm” is “1984”. His major themes of works are criticized society imperialism, nationalism, capitalism, political dishonesty, power, totalitarianism, privilege and private education.

In order to analyze the social condition in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell, the researcher needs to apply sociological approach. One of the theories related to sociological approach is The Sociology of Literature by Alan Swingewood. In his theory, Swingewood explains about literature and sociology complements each other in understanding society. Swingewood (1972: 12) also stated “sociology is concerned also with the processes whereby society changes, gradually, or cataclysmically as in revolution, from one type of society to another”. Phenomenon of corruption had impact all aspect of social life in society. It occurs at level of the society from government, judiciary, large and small service and so on. Meanwhile the phenomenon of corruption could lead to an overthrow a society in favor of a new system by a revolution. In history, corruption had led to a process of society changes in Russian society in the early of 20th century. Sociology approach is chosen to analyze author’s style in criticized the social fact happened in Russian society at the time.

The first half of the 20th century was a turbulent time for Russia. In 1917, the biggest revolution did by the workers and revolutionaries happened in Russia. The 1917 revolution actually is a term that used to the two big revolutions in Russia which is happened in the same year. The first revolution was happened in February 1917, the causes of this revolution are bread shortages, strikes and locks

out that happen in Russia. In addition of that, the weakness in leading the country and regime which had done by Tsar Nicholas II as the emperor of Russia make worse the situation (Fitzpatrick, 1994: 44). The second revolution happened in October 1917 which usually called as the Bolsheviks revolution, Bolshevik were The Russian Social Democratic Labour Party who followed Lenin's lead. The Russian revolution in 1917 is one of the events that left big impact for Russian society in early of 20th century and its government. Bolshevik had promised Russian that a new day was coming within their lifetime. Instead, Bolshevik's government does not have any different with previous regime.

Russian society condition at the time was portrayed in the novel "Animal Farm" in the form of satire. The story in this novel reflects many forms of political power corruption that occur when the freedom that the Bolsheviks offer to Russian society was transformed into tyranny. Animal characters were used as parody and sarcasm in describing revolution and corruption.

Referring to above mentioned matter, the writer hereby conducts this research entitled "The Satire of Corruption and Revolution in Russian Society in Early of 20th Century as Reflected in "Animal Farm" by George Orwell; Sociological Approach".

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Based on the back ground of the research, the problems raised and found in this study, are as follows:

1. The positive effects of revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.
2. The negative effects of revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.
3. The corruptions which lead to the revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.
4. The corruption after the revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.
5. Satire to criticize the danger of revolution in Russian Society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.
6. Satire to criticize power corruption in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.

1.3. Limitation of the Research

In conducting this research, the writer limits the problems of this research as follows:

1. The negative effects of the revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.
2. The author’s satire on the social condition toward power corruption after the revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.

1.4. Formulation of the Research

Based on the introduction and identification above, the formulations of this research are:

1. What are the negative effects of the revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell?
2. What are the author’s satires on the social condition toward power corruption after the revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell?

1.5. Objective of the Study

Based on the formulation of this research, this research is done in order to describe the problems which are appeared in the formulation of research, such as:

1. To figure out the negative effects of revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.
2. To reveal author’s satire on the social condition toward power corruption after the revolution in Russian society in early of 20th century as reflected in “Animal Farm” by George Orwell.

1.6. Significance of the Research

The followings are significances in some aspects that have been considered by the writer in discussing this study.

Theoretically, by conducting this study, the writer may apply the theory

and knowledge regarding the use of sociological approach into a novel. Therefore the writer gets a deeper understanding in regards to the sociological approach and the new knowledge written in the discussed novel.

Practical aspect, this research is expected to be useful for the readers in improving much more knowledge regarding the Russian Society in early of 20th century including its detail such as the social, economic, political, cultural, and religious aspect. Besides, it hopefully may be one of a good contributions and helpful reference for the next research that will criticize about related discussion.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding about the term used in this study, some related terms are needed to be defined.

Satire: The use of humor, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and criticize people's stupidity or vices, particularly in the context of contemporary politics and other topical issues. The satire, in this study, is author's style to criticize social fact which the author does not agree with.

Corruption: Dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those in power which typically involving bribery. Corruption in this study is referring to power corruption in Russian society in early of 20th century, Russian revolution had promised Russian that a better new day was coming, but the condition is not getting better.

Revolution: A forcible overthrow of a government or social order, in favor of a new system, the class struggle which is expected to lead to political change and the triumph of communism. In this study, revolution is Bolshevik force to overthrow a government and raise a new system.

Sociological Approach: A brand of knowledge concerning the development, structure, and functioning of society. In this study, sociological approach is the brand of knowledge related to human society chosen to analyze more about author's style in criticized the social fact happened in Russian Society in early of 20th century.